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James W. Silver to Jewell, 6 January 1962

James W. (James Wesley) Silver (1907-1988)

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January 6, 1962

Mrs. Durwood Wilbourn
2810 Byrd Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Jewell:

A Mrs. Fielder called me tonight about Jane Chittom and I promised that I would write you what I know about Jane. As I understand it, a couple of women are going to have to pay a note for \$380 that they endorsed for Jane, if Jane herself doesn't pay it.

I have not seen Jane in almost two years and we do not correspond with each other. But I do know something of her whaaaaabouts. She went to school in Athens, Ohio for two years after she left here. Last summer she was in Oxford, Mississippi (but I did not see her as I was in Oregon). As I understand it, Jane has been writing her thesis and living with another girl in a school in a northern town. Of this much I am sure: Jane does not have a job and is not even paying her share of the rent, and maybe not even the food. I was told that she needed money not long ago to purchase a pair of shoes. She has been doing a little modeling for an art class, but this work is sporadic and brings in almost nothing.

What I'm getting at is that at present Jane has no regular job, but has hoped of getting one this year with a press as an editor. I don't know what chance she really has. At this moment she is not only broke but she needs money desperately.

All of this is true. So I see no need in giving anyone her address. She has troubles enough and even if she were so inclined she couldn't do a thing about the note. I'm sorry that I can't give you a more favorable report but these are the facts as I know them. If you have any communication that you would like to get to her I shall be glad to forward it to her.

Sincerely,

James W. Silver